Docket No.: KIRCHNER Appl. No.: 10/596,729

REMARKS

After reviewing the claims on file, applicant further amends claim 1 in order to clearly set forth the features of the present invention and to more clearly distinguish the present invention from the applied prior art. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to set forth that the elastic connection extends at least partially in circumferential direction on the outer circumference of the hollow-cylindrical body so that a rotation of the hollow-cylindrical body causes a rotation of the tubular structure, as a result of the elastic force-fitting connection of the hollow-cylindrical body with the tubular structure.

Applicant further notes that at least claim 3 is considered allowable on its own merits as it recites other features of the invention neither taught nor suggested by the applied prior art. Claim 3 recites the presence of an elastic connection about the entire circumference of the hollow-cylindrical body. This is shown in Fig. 4.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the Examiner feels that it might be helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

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Respectfully submitted

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